

## **Project B.E.A.C.O.N 2010 Biologically, Ecologically, Aesthetically Constructed Shelter: A Flexible Resolve to Natural Disaster**

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### **ABSTRACT**

*The initial conception of BEACON in 2007 was in response to the housing needs of the economically challenge Filipino along the railway tracks from Laguna to the south and Bulacan to the north. In 2009, BEACON metamorphosed utilized bamboo as an integral structural element of the house. It addressed the sustainability of the house itself and dealt with the sustainability not only in construction but as well as the renewability of the sources of materials. Like most parts of the Asian continent, the Philippines is blessed with abundant source of bamboo, the bamboo being the tallest and the largest grass grows rapidly and in a span of 3 years it could be harvested and be utilized as a major structural element. History shows that bamboo has been used in buildings as it is common to the vernacular architecture Philippines. However, the use of the bamboo is usually limited to transitory structures what Filipinos would commonly call “bahay kubo” (nipa hut) and as main ingredient to a lot of Filipino cuisines. The stigma also of living in a nipa hut as a shelter that would not weather the storm is apparent.*

*The study however shows that because of the bamboo’s uniqueness, it is strong in both tension and compression . The housing unit extends itself outside by providing self-sustenance to its inhabitants. BEACON 2010 further aims to address the inevitable onslaught of natural disasters aggravated by man’s irresponsibility to the environment. A more intense advocacy towards the modification of the project was impelled by the painful and horrifying experiences of the Filipino people during Typhoons “Ondoy” and “Pepeng” that hit the country in succession in 2009.*

**Keywords:** *sustainable living, long term sustainability, humane living, green living, economic viability*